

# Washington State Patrol Media Release

**Chief John R. Batiste**

---



Captain Jeff DeVere  
Government and Media Relations  
(360) 753-5299 – office  
(360) 753-5469 – fax  
<http://www.wsp.wa.gov>

**\*\*\*For Immediate Release\*\*\***

**Date: June 14, 2006 / 8:00 p.m.**

**Contact: Trooper J.J. Gundermann, Tacoma**

**(253) 536-4386 – office**

**(253) 606-1796 – cell/pager**

## **Aberdeen Man Seriously Injured In Road Rage Incident On I-5**

A Road Rage incident in Thurston County causes a collision on Interstate 5 (I-5) in Lacey sending an Aberdeen man to hospital with serious injuries. The roadway was blocked only for a short time for the airlift to land in the median to transport the victim to Harborview Medical Center in Seattle.

The June 14<sup>th</sup> incident occurred approximately 4:35 p.m. when the State Patrol received reports of a two car, rollover collision, southbound on I-5 at Martin Way. According to witnesses, 25 year-old Otto W. Messmer of Tenino was driving a green 1994 Honda Civic on Martin Way and was involved in a Road Rage incident with another vehicle. The only description of that vehicle is that of a brown truck. Messmer was driving recklessly as he merged onto the southbound lanes of I-5 from Martin Way at a high rate of speed crossing all lanes when he struck 24 year-old Michael A. Wynn of Aberdeen driving a red Geo Metro. Both vehicles rolled in the median, the Geo rolled several times.

Wynn sustained serious injuries and was airlifted to Harborview Medical Center. His passenger, 23 year-old Bradley J. Shay of Hoquiam was not injured. Messmer sustained minor injuries and was transported to St. Peter's Hospital in Olympia. Troopers believe Messmer may have been impaired at the time of the collision. After his release from the hospital he was booked into the Thurston County Jail and may face charges of Vehicular Assault.

###